by this time could be distinctly felt. After 48 hours' growth, these tubes were inoculated intraperitoneally into two guinea pigs. Both pigs were dead within 48 hours. The peritoneum was intensely injected and covered with a sticky exudate. Bipolar organisms were present in enormous numbers. Plate cultures from this exudate yielded an organism showing the following characteristics: Minute colorless colonies on agar in 24 hours, becoming slightly grayish in 48 to 72 hours; very slight turbidity in broth; no stalactites were observed; involutional forms on 2.5 per cent salt agar; very slightly on acid in glucose broth.

Inoculation of additional guinea pigs by vaccination and pocket yielded typical gross lesions of plague from which the organism was recovered in pure culture.

SUMMARY.

This case of human plague originated in an old squirrel plague-focus in the Bitterwater Valley, San Benito County. The patient was seen and large doses of serum were administered 68 hours after onset, which probably explains the fairly rapid recovery. Credit for the fortunate outcome is due Dr. O'Bannon, of Hollister, for his prompt diagnosis, and Fred I. Lackenbach, of San Francisco, for keeping in stock a potent plague serum for which there is very little demand.

PROMPT MOSQUITO CONTROL BY USE OF THE TOP MINNOW, GAMBUSIA.

Ichthyologist Samuel F. Hildebrand recently made the following report on the prompt control of mosquito production by employment of *Gambusia* in large numbers:

Unusually heavy rains were experienced around Augusta, Georgia, early in July. As a result, many temporary ponds were formed. A pond, covering about one-fourth acre of ground, was observed on July 18 to contain mosquito larvæ in countless numbers. Culicine larvæ predominated, but many anopheline larvæ were also found. The mosquito larvæ were uniformly distributed over the pond. Previous to the July rains this depression was completely dry, but it gave evidence of having been under water for a considerable period of time since aquatic plants, cat-tails, and arrowheads were well established. Smart-weed, Bermuda grass, and foxtail occurred along the edges of the water. On July 19, approximately 2,000 *Gambusia* were introduced. On the evening of July 20 no wiggletails were visible in open water, but they were exceedingly numerous in the vegetation where they had gone for protection. On and after July 26 only an occasional small wiggletail could be found.

As the fish were obtained from an abundantly stocked pond only about 300 yards distant, they were transferred about 500 at a time in a wooden tub, the work requiring less than half a day's time of one laborer. The cost in this instance for complete, prompt and continuous control of mosquito production was not more than $1.

PREVALENCE OF POLIOMYELITIS.

The following table gives the number of cases of poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis) reported to the Public Health Service by State health officers from May 29 to September 3, 1921, inclusive. These reports are preliminary and necessarily incomplete.

Poliomyelitis (infantile paralysis)—Number of cases of poliomyelitis occurring in various States, as reported to the Public Health Service by the State health officers in weekly telegraphic or mail reports.

[States omitted are those from which no reports have been received or which have reported no poliomyelitis during the period covered. Leaders indicate that reports were received, but no cases of poliomyelitis were reported.]

State.	Week ended (1921)—												September—
	June—			July—					August—				
	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	3
Arkansas			1							7	7		2
California	1	2	5		3	3	6	10	4	9	4	6	9
Colorado [1]									1		2	1	1
Connecticut			6	2	3	2	4	5	1	4	5	6	8
District of Columbia					3	4	3	7	3		2	2	
Florida									1				
Georgia	1	1		1								1	
Illinois	2	4	5	10	12	15	24	39	38	27	28	25	16
Indiana		2	1	1	1		6	8	5	2	3	2	7
Iowa				1	1	3	1	1	7	6	16	14	8
Kansas	1				2	2		1		1	3	3	6
Kentucky	1			1	2	2	1				1		
Louisiana								2					
Maine	3					1		1			1	3	1
Maryland	1	2	3	4	1	4	8	7	6	10	16	10	10
Massachusetts	2		1	4	3	6	4	10	10	12	18	16	14
Minnesota	1	1	2	10	1	3	5	101	81	48	62	50	48
Mississippi	1											1	
Missouri		(2)	6		(2)	8	3	4	5	3	2	2	5
Montana										2			1
Nebraska	1			3		1	2	2		4	5	2	1
New Jersey	2	1	1	2	(2)	3	1	6	7	6	8	4	12
New York [3]			1		2	4	10	15	24	27	41	34	40
North Carolina		3		4	3	1			1	2	2		2
Ohio	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	27	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)	(2)
South Dakota						3			2		1	1	
Texas								3					
Vermont					3	1		3	3	2	4		2
Virginia	(2)	(2)	1		(2)	2	1	2	(2)	(2)	1	(2)	
Washington											13	39	22
West Virginia									2	3		3	1
Wisconsin				1	4	9	14	12	21	16	15	14	17

[1] Exclusive of Denver. [2] No report received. [3] Exclusive of New York City.